

Amendments to the Claims:

1-60 (Canceled).

61. (Previously Presented) A cigarette comprising:

    a tobacco rod;

    a filter element having an outer cylindrical shape connected to the tobacco rod, said filter element having an end proximal to the tobacco rod and an end distal from the tobacco rod;

    a cavity defined by said filter element, and extending from the proximal end of the filter element, wherein the cavity possesses a generally conical shape at a first end and a generally cylindrical shape at a second end proximal to the tobacco rod; and

    at least one breakable capsule disposed in the cavity, said capsule having contents,

    wherein said filter element incorporates cellulose acetate treated in a manner that results in the filter element being sufficiently flexible to be squeezed to break said capsule while also being sufficiently resilient to return to a substantially cylindrical shape and maintain said cavity after being squeezed.

62. (Previously Presented) The cigarette of Claim 61 wherein the cellulose acetate incorporated in the filter element is treated by impregnation with triacetin plasticizer.

63. (Previously Presented) The cigarette of Claim 62 wherein the cellulose acetate incorporated in the filter element is treated by steam bonding.

64. (Previously Presented) The cigarette of Claim 61 wherein said cavity includes a first region for receipt of the at least one breakable capsule and a second region for receipt of capsule contents following rupture of the capsule.

65. (Previously Presented) The cigarette of Claim 61 wherein the breakable capsule contains

Appl. No.: 10/600,712  
Amdt. dated March 25, 2009  
Reply to Office Action of September 26, 2008

flavoring for mainstream smoke generated by the cigarette.

66. (Cancelled).

67. (Previously Presented) The cigarette of Claim 61 wherein the cavity possesses an opening that is disposed in the end of the filter element proximal to the tobacco rod.

68. (Previously Presented) The cigarette of Claim 61 wherein the filter element comprises:

an outer element of filter material; and

an inner element of filter material, wherein said filter element inner element is crimped along an axial direction into a generally cross-shaped form.

69. (Cancelled).

70. (Previously Presented) The cigarette of Claim 61 wherein the breakable capsule contains a component capable of altering the overall composition of mainstream smoke generated by the cigarette.

71. (Previously Presented) The cigarette of Claim 61 wherein the cavity possesses a generally circular cross-sectional shape and a diameter of about 4 mm, and the capsule is generally spherical in shape and has a diameter of about 3.5 mm.

72. (Previously Presented) The cigarette of Claim 61 wherein the cavity possesses a longitudinal axis dimension of approximately half of the length of the filter element.

73. (Previously Presented) The cigarette of Claim 68 wherein the inner element of the filter element comprises steam bonded cellulose acetate impregnated with triacetin plasticizer.

Appl. No.: 10/600,712  
Amdt. dated March 25, 2009  
Reply to Office Action of September 26, 2008

74. (Previously Presented) The cigarette of Claim 62 wherein the filter element comprises:

- an outer element of cellulose acetate filter material; and
- an inner element of steam bonded cellulose acetate filter material.

75. (Previously Presented) The cigarette of Claim 74 wherein the outer element of filter material is generally permeable to the passage of drawn mainstream smoke; and the inner element includes a crimped terminus.

76. (Previously Presented) The cigarette of Claim 61 wherein the breakable capsule contains a breath freshening agent.

77. (Previously Presented) The cigarette of Claim 61 wherein treatment of the filter element results in the cavity being tacky on an interior surface.

78. (Previously Presented) A cigarette comprising:

- a tobacco rod;
- a filter element connected to the tobacco rod, said filter element having an end proximal to the tobacco rod and an end distal from the tobacco rod;
- a cavity defined by said filter element, and extending into the filter element from the distal end of the filter element, wherein the cavity possesses a generally conical shape at a first end and a generally cylindrical shape at a second end distal from the tobacco rod;
- at least one breakable capsule disposed in the cavity, said capsule having contents; and
- a filter segment located at the end of the filter element distal from the tobacco rod,

wherein said filter element incorporates cellulose acetate treated in a manner that results in the filter element being sufficiently flexible to be squeezed to break said capsule while also being sufficiently resilient to return to a substantially cylindrical shape and maintain said cavity after being squeezed.

Appl. No.: 10/600,712  
Amdt. dated March 25, 2009  
Reply to Office Action of September 26, 2008

79. (Previously Presented) The cigarette of Claim 78 wherein the cellulose acetate incorporated in the filter element is treated by impregnation with triacetin plasticizer.
80. (Previously Presented) The cigarette of Claim 79 wherein the cellulose acetate incorporated in the filter element is treated by steam bonding.
81. (Previously Presented) The cigarette of Claim 78 wherein said cavity includes a first region for receipt of the at least one breakable capsule and a second region for receipt of capsule contents following rupture of the capsule.
82. (Previously Presented) The cigarette of Claim 78 wherein the breakable capsule contains flavoring for mainstream smoke generated by the cigarette.
83. (Previously Presented) The cigarette of Claim 78 wherein the filter element comprises:
  - an outer element of filter material; and
  - an inner element of filter material, wherein said filter element inner element is crimped along an axial direction into a generally cross-shaped form.
84. (Previously Presented) The cigarette of Claim 83 wherein the inner element of the filter element comprises steam bonded cellulose acetate impregnated with triacetin plasticizer.
85. (Cancelled).
86. (Previously Presented) The cigarette of Claim 79 wherein the filter element comprises:
  - an outer element of cellulose acetate filter material; and
  - an inner element of steam bonded cellulose acetate filter material.
87. (Previously Presented) The cigarette of Claim 86 wherein the outer element of filter material

Appl. No.: 10/600,712  
Amdt. dated March 25, 2009  
Reply to Office Action of September 26, 2008

is generally permeable to the passage of drawn mainstream smoke; and the inner element includes a crimped terminus.

88. (Previously Presented) The cigarette of Claim 78 wherein the breakable capsule contains a breath freshening agent.

89. (Previously Presented) The cigarette of Claim 78 wherein treatment of the filter element results in the cavity being tacky on an interior surface.

90. (New) A cigarette comprising:

a tobacco rod;

a filter element having an outer cylindrical shape connected to the tobacco rod, said filter element having an end proximal to the tobacco rod and an end distal from the tobacco rod, the filter element comprising a segment comprising an inner portion of filter tow material defining a cavity and an outer portion of filter tow material surrounding the inner portion, wherein the cavity possesses a generally conical shape at a first end and a generally cylindrical shape at a second end, and wherein the inner portion is crimped at the first end; and

at least one breakable capsule disposed in the cavity, the capsule having an outer shell and an internal payload,

wherein said segment of the filter element is sufficiently flexible to be squeezed to break said capsule while also being sufficiently resilient such that said segment returns to a substantially cylindrical outer shape and said cavity returns to its original defined shape after being squeezed.

91. (New) The cigarette of Claim 90 wherein the outer portion of filter tow material is permeable to mainstream smoke and at least one of the outer portion and the inner portion is absorbent to liquids.

92. (New) The cigarette of Claim 90 wherein the breakable capsule is in a fixed position within

Appl. No.: 10/600,712  
Amdt. dated March 25, 2009  
Reply to Office Action of September 26, 2008

the cavity.

93. (New) The cigarette of Claim 92 wherein an interior surface of the inner portion of the segment is roughened or tacky in order to hold the breakable capsule in the fixed position.

94. (New) The cigarette of Claim 93 wherein the interior surface of the inner portion of the segment is coated with a plasticizer in order to render the surface tacky.

95. (New) The cigarette of Claim 92 wherein the breakable capsule is held in the fixed position by wedging the breakable capsule against an inclined surface of the conical portion of the cavity.

96. (New) The cigarette of Claim 90 wherein the second end of the cavity is open, and the open end faces the tobacco rod.

97. (New) The cigarette of Claim 90 wherein the second end of the cavity is open, and the open end faces the end of the filter segment distal from the tobacco rod.

98. (New) The cigarette of Claim 97 further comprising a second segment of filter material tow at the end of the filter segment distal from the tobacco rod, the second segment of filter material tow facing the open end of the cavity.

99. (New) The cigarette of Claim 90 wherein the inner portion of the segment comprises steam-bonded and plasticized cellulose acetate tow and the outer portion of the segment comprises plasticized cellulose acetate tow.